



# MIKE MORRICE

Member of Parliament  
Kitchener Centre

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September 2022

## BRINGING YOUR VOICE TO OTTAWA

As I get ready to return to the House of Commons this fall, I'm feeling grateful for all the opportunities I had over the summer to connect with many of you.

Whether we chatted at your front door or at a community event, your stories and experiences have affirmed priorities I've been working on – for example addressing housing affordability and the climate crisis. You've also opened my eyes to emerging concerns - from healthcare workers that deserve to be paid like the heroes they are, to skilled newcomers needing accreditation for their out-of-country training.

Some will argue our efforts are hopeless.

But in the last session of Parliament, we successfully pushed for reintroducing legislation for a guaranteed income for Canadians with disabilities. This inspires me to keep advocating for our community.

Please continue to reach out anytime: when I'm in Ottawa I'm available by zoom or phone, in-person backyard conversations will continue on weekends, and my third townhall is October 13.

Sincerely,

Member of Parliament  
Kitchener Centre

### CONTACT INFO

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## HOMES PEOPLE CAN AFFORD

Institutional investors should invest in the stock market, not in our housing supply.

We need to push back on large corporate investors who are taking over our neighbourhoods, resulting in increased housing costs for both renters and homebuyers.

As I've learned more about what's contributing to unaffordable housing costs, deterring Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) from

speculating on housing is one place we can make significant progress.

We can push back on those looking to profiteer at the expense of young people and low income folks unable to access affordable housing in our community.

Register for my e-news for updates on our efforts to stop the commodification of our housing supply. Visit [mikemorricemp.ca](http://mikemorricemp.ca) to sign up!



Lula from House of Friendship joined as a guest at my May townhall on housing affordability that aired on Rogers TV.

Turn the page for information on part two this October!

# MARGINALIZED VOICES



Outside of Grand Valley Institution for Women with Senator Kim Pate and advocates including from Community Justice Initiatives during a visit to meet with inmates, volunteers, and staff about living conditions, safety, and rights.

When I was elected, I learned that all MPs have the privilege to visit any federal prison.

So this summer, we organized a visit joined by Senator Kim Pate and her team, Julia from Community Justice Initiatives (CJI) - The Just Community, advocate Rick Sauvé, and Owen from my team to walk through the Grand Valley Institution for Women on Homer Watson.

We got to hear from wardens, union reps, nurses and other Corrections Services staff about what they would like to see improved.

Most importantly, we got to hear directly from prisoners - they shared concerns about the quality of their drinking water, a lack of internet access, or how hopeful they were that volunteers from CJI would soon be permitted to visit.

It was a profound experience and a great reminder for how important it is to ensure that truly *\*all voices\** are heard.

## SURVEY SAYS...

In our last mailing we asked how you would spend \$7.1 billion to invest in real climate solutions—instead of the new subsidies for oil and gas companies announced by the federal government.

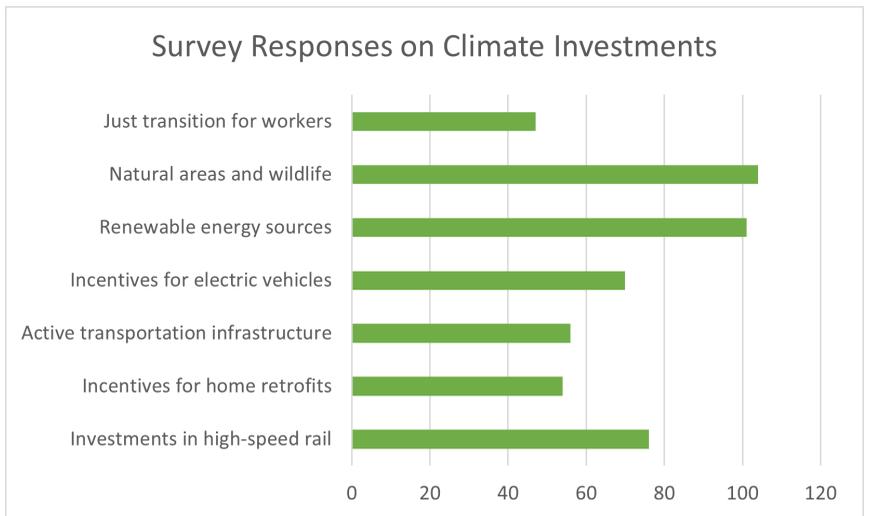
We're past incremental fixes. We need a science-based climate plan that ensures no one is left behind. Around the world, other jurisdictions are rising to this challenge and showing us it's possible.

Your responses will help to influence my advocacy in the House of Commons.

Some respondents selected multiple choices, so numbers reflect the total in favour for each category.

I also encourage you to check out this issue's survey on the next page. Your responses are important to me!

Survey Responses on Climate Investments



Number of responses per initiative from Kitchener Centre residents following our May issue's survey on how to solve the climate crisis.

## KITCHENER CENTRE IN THE MEDIA



Joint media event with MP Nate Erskine-Smith and Senators Kim Pate and Chantael Petitclerc to fast-track the Canada Disability Benefit.



CBC's The House featured Kitchener Centre as part of a summer series, including Reep Green Solutions and our tech community.



Raising concerns about anti-trans hate in Canada on May 17th, International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, and Transphobia.

# LISTENING TO LOCAL AND NATIONAL VOICES

Thank you to all of the groups who took the time to meet with me, including:

- Union Co-operative and WR Yes In My Backyard on potential policy solutions to address the housing crisis
- Nature Canada, Wildlands League, David Suzuki Foundation, and World Commission on Protected Areas on concerns with the governing party's 2 Billion Trees program
- Six Nations of the Grand River Consultation and Accommodation Process Team to better understand challenges they're experiencing with various levels of governments not respecting their duty to consult
- Google Canada on Bill C-18 which regulates digital news intermediaries to enhance fairness in the Canadian digital news marketplace and contribute to its sustainability
- Moms Stop the Harm on Private Members Bill C-216 which would have prevented harms caused by a poisoned drug supply through decriminalization and a safe supply
- Crow Shield Lodge who hosted me for a listening circle with Indigenous community leaders
- Wilfrid Laurier University International Students Overcoming War about federal government support for their efforts with students from war conflict countries looking to study in safety
- Somali Canadian Association of Waterloo Region on the needs and priorities of the local Somali community

## HOUSING TOWNHALL PART TWO

Following the success of my May townhall on housing affordability, we are planning a second in this series for Thursday, October 13th at 7pm.

In this event we will speak with local housing experts who experience this crisis from different perspectives—for example for those with accessibility needs, racialized members of our community, and those in the arts sector.

The townhall will once again air live on Rogers TV Cable 20, with a live stream online and a small live audience.

Submit your questions or find more information at [mikemorricemp.ca](http://mikemorricemp.ca)



Visiting young people hired through Canada Summer Jobs has been a highlight for me. Above, I'm with Erica, Ailish, and Tasmin from Best for Bees. Below, with students hired by the Stanley Park Community Association.



## WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU?

As MPs from across the country head back to Ottawa for the fall session of Parliament, it's important for me to continue to hear from you to help inform my advocacy there.

Please check off your top three issues, or add something not included in the line below!

Then simply cut along the dotted lines, fold and tape the edges, and mail back free of charge through Canada Post.

- Improving mental health services
- Eliminating gender-based violence
- Supporting arts and artists
- Tackling the poisoned drug crisis
- Improving housing affordability
- Advocating for electoral reform
- Prioritizing Indigenous reconciliation

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SIGN ME UP FOR YOUR MONTHLY E-NEWS!

Please cut along the dotted lines, fold, and tape along the sides to seal.

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# TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION



I was honoured to paddle in Two Row on the Grand, with one Indigenous row, and one ally row – to demonstrate the simple concept of the Two Row Wampum Treaty.



Wearing orange on July 1 to raise awareness and show support for Indigenous neighbours impacted by residential schools.



Meeting with Six Nations of the Grand River to discuss challenges with various governments not respecting their duty to consult on developments.

No postage required

**MIKE MORRICE**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**  
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FOLD



Meeting with a passionate group of local Indigenous leaders, I was reminded of the responsibility I hold: to bring their stories and perspectives to Parliament. To ensure their voices are heard. Special thanks to Clarence and Crow Shield Lodge for hosting us, and for gifting me this eagle feather: a reminder of the direction we seek to walk, together.

TAPE

September 30th marks the second National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour the lost children and survivors of residential schools, their families, and communities.

I'm honoured by Indigenous community members who have taken the time to meet with me as we journey together on the path to truth and reconciliation.



Learning from Stephen at Anishnabeg Outreach about their innovative approach to employment supports, healing, and online learning.



Adding my footprints to the Every Child Matters Crosswalk thanks to community organizer Sheena.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 13  
OCT

**HOUSING TOWNHALL**  
 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
 Visit [mikemorricemp.ca](http://mikemorricemp.ca) or call 519-741-2001 for more information.
- OCT

**COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS**  
 Various dates and times available.  
 Book a phone, video, or backyard chat with Mike and a group of neighbours or local family and friends!
- NOV

 Please note, groups of 6-12 people are preferred.
- DEC

 To book a Community Conversation visit [mikemorricemp.ca](http://mikemorricemp.ca) or call 519-741-2001.

TAPE

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